

Message Text

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TAGS: PEPR, EGEN, ZA, FI
SUBJ: FINNISH PRIME MINISTER VISITS ZAMBIA

1. FINNISH PRIME MINISTER KALEVI SORSA ARRIVED IN LUSAKA APRIL
11 FOR A FOUR-DAY OFFICIAL VISIT WHICH WAS HIGHLIGHTED BY A STOP
IN LIVINGSTONE NEAR THE RHODESIAN BORDER AND THE INAUGURATION OF
A BATTERY FACTORY IN NORTHERN ZAMBIA. AT A STATE DINNER IN LUSAKA,
SORSA POINTED OUT THAT HIS WAS THE FIRST STATE VISIT BY A FINNISH PRIME

MINISTER TO SOUTHERN AFRICA, AND AS SUCH WAS SYMBOLIC OF A NEW
PHASE IN HIS COUNTRY'S FOREIGN POLICY. MR. SORSA SAID THE TWO
SPECIFIC PURPOSES OF HIS TRIP TO ZAMBIA WERE TO CEMENT RELATIONS
BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES AND TO GET FIRST-HAND INFORMATION
ABOUT THE PROBLEMS ZAMBIA FACED IN LIGHT OF THE SOUTHERN
AFRICAN ISSUE.

2. IN A SPEECH AT THE OPENING OF A BATTERY FACTORY IN MANSA,
PRIME MINISTER SORSA CALLED FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF MORE
JOINT VENTURES IN INDUSTRY AND AGRICULTURE BETWEEN FINLAND AND ZAMBIA.

HE URGED THAT FINNISH ENTREPRENEURS UNDERTAKE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS
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WITH THEIR ZAMBIAN COUNTERPARTS DESPITE THE UNFAVORABLE ECONOMIC
CONDITIONS CURRENTLY PREVAILING IN BOTH COUNTRIES. HE ADDED,
"WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE THIS ENTERPRISING SPIRIT CONTINUE AND DEVELOP
TO INCLUDE OTHER INDUSTRIAL FIELDS LIKE FORESTRY AND OTHER WOOD-BASED
INDUSTRIES."

3. ON THE PROBLEMS OF SOUTHERN AFRICA, PRIME MINISTER SORSA
SAID THAT THE RHODESIAN INTERNAL AGREEMENT WOULD NOT WORK BECAUSE
IT EXCLUDED THE PATRIOTIC FRONT. SPEAKING AT A ZAPU REFUGEE
CAMP OUTSIDE LUSAKA
HE CALLED FOR TIGHTER UN SANCTIONS AGAINST
THE RHODESIAN REGIME AND CONDEMNED RHODESIAN ATTACKS AGAINST
NEIGHBORING STATES LIKE ZAMBIA. HE SAID THAT FINLAND WAS WATCHING
THE PROGRESS BEING MADE BY THE PATRIOTIC FRONT IN ITS EFFORTS
TO LIBERATE ZIMBABWE, AND HE ANNOUNCED THAT FINLAND HAD PLEDGED
TO INCREASE MATERIAL AND MEDICAL AID TO THE FRONT'S ZAPU WING.
CLINGERMAN

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